

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Pending Claims

Claims 1, 27, 33, 40, 45, 48, 57, 60, 98, 100, 106, 116, 126, 131, 141, 173-175, 180, 185, 190, 196, 198, 202, 204-206, 212-214 and 218-222 are pending. Claims 1, 27, 33, 40, 45, 48, 57, 100, 106, 126, 131, 141, 173, 174, 205, 206 and 214 are withdrawn. Therefore claims 60, 98, 175, 180, 185, 190, 196, 198, 202, 204, 212, 213 and 218-222 are pending and under examination.

Claims added in the instant amendment

Claims 223-229 are added.

Claims canceled in the instant amendment

Claims 116 and 222 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, after entry of the instant amendment, claims 60, 98, 175, 180, 185, 190, 196, 198, 202, 204, 212, 213, 218-221 and 223-229 will be pending and under consideration.

This Communication

The instant Communication alleges that Applicants' last amendment was non-compliant under Rule 121, and that only a corrected section of the response should be submitted. In response, only a corrected version of the "Amendment to the Claims" is submitted herein. Specifically, the status identifier of Claim 116 has been changed from "withdrawn" to "canceled."

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner can properly withdraw the rejection of pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101, 35 U.S.C. § 102, 35 U.S.C. § 103, 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In view of the above, claims in this application after entry of the instant amendment are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

In the unlikely event that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-0661 referencing docket no. D1160N. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: April 13, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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